

24 December 1969

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MEMORANDUM FOR:

SUBJECT : Comments on Draft Titled: "Intelligence
Planning Assumptions for the 1970s"

1. Reference para. 44 a. or b. - In one of these subparagraphs you may wish to include ". . . Soviet assessment of their strategic relationship vis-a-vis the United States and its allies." The important point here is not whether we think we have the Soviets deterred but rather what the Soviets think about the strategic relationship.

2. Reference para. 47 - This paragraph can be interpreted to mean that the intelligence job is only reactive in supporting planning and decisions. Would it be useful to emphasize that intelligence has two fundamental responsibilities (even under budget constraints) - (1) identifying things which appear to merit the attention of policy planners and decision makers, and then (2) supporting the policy planning and decision-making process, once the parameters of national attention are focused? (The first sentence in paragraph 93 expresses essentially the same idea which you may want to put in paragraph 47 too.)

25X1

4. Reference para. 77.c. (page 7) - Hopefully, when State coordinates on this paper, the comments on reliance on embassy reports can be expanded and emphasized.

5. Reference para. 78 (LATIN AMERICA) - You might want to mention the special problem with respect to Cuba.

~~TOP SECRET~~

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6. In general, this is a very fine paper. The revision of the BNE input is an improvement which might elicit further suggestions when the paper is coordinated within the community.

7. Depending on how Section IV of the paper is developed, it may be worth rethinking the outline and sequence of the paper. This is particularly true if the primary purpose of the paper is to be broader than to assist generally in the planning and program cycle which precedes the annual budget review. For example, placing all the estimative discussion in one section and consolidating the implications comments might make the document easier to use at the various planning levels. On the other hand, there is some value in tying the particular implications to each of the first three sections. Also, from an evolutionary development standpoint, there may be reasons why retaining some correlation with the CIA document is a good idea, at least in the first generation of the community version of the paper.



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